



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer
Director of Consumer Affairs

At its meeting held February 24, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“In February of 2003, the Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County received a grant from the California State Bar to establish the Antelope Valley Self-Help Legal Access Center (Center) at the Palmdale Court two days a week. Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County has received grant funding for the second year in a row for 2004 and is presently operating out of the Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse in Lancaster two days a week.

“During the past year, the Center provided assistance to over 4,267 individuals and families despite limited publicity. Currently, an average of 70 people visit the Center each day it is open. Neighboring office staff and other Court personnel are daily witnesses to the demand for the only free legal assistance available in the Antelope Valley. The Cost for running the Center for an additional three days a week, full-time, through the end of the grant funding, which expires December 31, 2004, is approximately \$64,260.00.

In 2000, the Center was initiated as a pilot program at the Van Nuys Court for a period of two years. Subsequently, in recognition of its success and importance, the Board voted to extend the program at the Van Nuys Court and to expand it to the Pomona and Inglewood Courts. The current contract for the three Courts runs from September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004, for a total cost of \$698,000.00.

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“Supplementing the grant funds received by Neighborhood Legal Services to operate the Antelope Valley Self-Help Legal Access Center on a full-time basis will greatly benefit the Antelope Valley community. Moreover, the Antelope Valley Self-Help Legal Access Center will operate at a much lower cost than the three existing centers that are funded entirely by net County cost.”

Merritt Holloway addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to identify the source for the \$64,260.00 necessary for running the Antelope Valley Self-Help Legal Access Center three days a week, with the remaining two days funded through a grant from the California State Bar;
2. Directed the Director of Consumer Affairs, as the program administrator, to work with Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County and the Superior Court to identify the best and most expeditious manner in which to incorporate the Antelope Valley Self-Help Legal Access Center into its existing agreement with Neighborhood Legal Services; and
3. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Consumer Affairs to report back to the Board within one week with a joint report.

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Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
County Counsel